

Wolfner Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

Mar. 16, 2018

Approved with correction: July 20, 2018

Board Members:

Present: Peter Altschul, Rita McGuire, Walt Ross, Kathleen Gallagher, Kati Crowden, Kathleen Gallagher, DeAnna Noriega, Darla Rogers

Present via conference call: Mary Dingus, Dan Flasar

Quorum: Yes

Others present:

Trish Vincent, Executive Deputy Secretary of State/Chief of Staff

Debra Musselman, Acting Assistant State Librarian

Donna Riegel, Director, Wolfner

Abbey Rimel, Deputy Director, Wolfner

Deborah Stroup, Studio and Volunteer Services Manager

Amy Nickless, Adult Services Librarian

Lisa Hellman, Youth Services Librarian

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Chair Peter Altschul

November meeting minutes were approved by acclamation.

Executive Deputy Secretary of State Report – Trish Vincent:

- Robin Westphal has been appointed the new State Librarian. Her first day will be April 9. She is coming from Tennessee; however, she has worked previously at the Livingston (MO) Public Library.
- Peter Altschul was thanked for his participation in the State Librarian selection process.
- The budget process continues. The new decision item for advertising for Wolfner has stayed in the budget. No cuts are anticipated, though we won't know until the Governor gives his approval.

Acting Assistant State Librarian Report – Debra Musselman:

- The Institute for Museum and Library Services authorization expired in 2016. However, IMLS is able to function on a status quo basis. No new policy/goal changes may be made until reauthorization occurs.
- LSTA FY18 is funded until March 23. We should know the full award amount by mid-April. There appears to be positive movement for fully funding LSTA FY2018 at the current LSTA FY2017 level, if not slightly higher.

Public Services Report – Abbey Rimel:

- Discussion of WolfPac issues raised by Walter Ross regarding font size, search filtering, and other general concerns. Abbey explained the WolfPac is a third party product but that she would relay the concerns for consideration and report back.
- Wolfner's 80th Anniversary celebration will be held Saturday, June 2, 2018 at the Secretary of State's building. It will be a joint meeting for the Friends Annual meeting, Volunteer Recognition, and a general program. The meeting will be along the same line as last year's meeting.
- MOCA Pilot Program is a wireless delivery of National Library Service (NLS) audio materials without requiring a computer or internet access. The service is based on cell-phone technology (provided by NLS). The public pilot will last about 2 months. Two Wolfner patrons are participating in the pilot.
- The first edition of the catalog for locally produced digital books is in process. It will be available in all formats. This catalog will have all the locally produced digital books in our collection to date. Annual supplements will be provided in the future. The catalog is being published in response to numerous patron requests.
- The Spring newsletter will be out in April. It will feature the poetry contest winners, the book club schedule and initial information about the Summer Reading program. It will also have a listing of new titles done by the Recording Studio.

Youth Services Report – Lisa Hellman

- Summer Reading Program continues to increase in participants - up 15% in 2017. It is anticipated the growth will continue.

While the program is open to all youth patrons of Wolfner, the kick-off will be held at the Missouri School for the Blind in St. Louis, as is the custom.

- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) kits will be initiated as a new service in the fall. The kits are targeted to grades 1 through 4.
- Second Teen Poetry Contest: 6 participants submitted 9 poems. Submissions will again be judged by Walter Bargaen, with the 3 winners included in the Spring newsletter.
- Early literacy Initiative has 35 participants as of March, 2018. Participant caregivers were asked to respond to a survey to determine the effective of the program. The result was that caregivers felt they read more with their children and that the support materials were helpful. The Friends of Wolfner Library will be funding the translation of the Early Literacy kits into Spanish.

Adult Services Report – Amy Nickless,

- Book Clubs are being scheduled for next year.
- Adult Winter Reading Program registration starts in January.
- Book Club kits are in-process with planned implementation next fiscal year.
- Large print collection has grown to over 3,000 titles.
- Patron workshop on WolfPac was held in February.
- Large Print Sticker Program has expanded to 68 public libraries throughout the state.
- Outreach programs: 49 events attended: speaking engagements, professional conferences, and senior and community health fairs, veterans' centers.
- Mass mailing to our target group, health care professionals, was well received.
 - Council member Rita McGuire requested outreach information.

Recording Studio – Deborah Stroup:

- Wolfner Library currently has 592 Missouri titles on BARD. A digital catalog of the adult selections is in process. Titles for children and youth will continue to be online, the preferred access for the age group.

- Current recording projects include: *Breaking It Down and Connecting the Dots*, *Wicked Women of Missouri*, *Missouri Heritage at Sea*, and *Death Rattle*.
- Securities bookmark and brochure were created and made available to our patrons.
- Laptops for use by volunteers at home have been useful with reducing the backlog of reviewing. Wolfner Library anticipates the acquisition of an additional laptop which should also help in clearing the backlogged recordings.
- The Recording Studio is in the process of getting a second braille embosser. This will aid in the Brailleing of *Guideposts*, which the Library is now doing in-house.
- Recently added Missouri book titles were shared. Missouri recorded books are titles not done by NLS that have a Missouri theme, a Missouri location and/or are written by a Missouri author. Once recorded, the titles appear as part of the BARD catalog, making the books available on a national level.

Director's Report – Dr. Donna Riegel:

- Working on the FY18 budget to expend our allocation. Because General Revenue and Trust Fund allocations do not roll-over, it is important to get those dollars spent.
- A New Decision Item for additional Trust Fund appropriations to initiate a professional media campaign was included in the FY19 request. So far, the request has remained in the budget.

Other/New Business - Council Chair Altschul:

- The Strategic Plan will be considered at the next Council meeting. Copies of the current plan will be sent to all members. The new plan will cover FY2019-FY2022.

Next meeting:

- Friday, July 20, 2018. This will be an onsite meeting.
- Topic: updating of the Strategic Plan. Copies will be distributed in May for review

Meeting adjourned on motion by Council Member Don Flasar.